

ST. PAUL'S
CATHEDRAL.



THE
HISTORY
AND
DESCRIPTION
Of the famous
CATHEDRAL
OF
St. Paul's, London.

Printed for *Tho. Boreman*,
Bookseller, near the two
giants in *Guildhall, Lon-*
don. 1741. [Price 4 d.]



To
Master *Tommy Boreman*,
Near the Two Giants in
Guildhall, LONDON.

I Send this greeting,
Master *Tommy*,
Tho', I believe, you
may not know me ;
To shew how greatly
I am smitten
With what so lately
you have written.

[vi]

Whether your age, your
 parts and stature
 Agree with mine, it
 is no matter ;
 Or whether, like old
 Dad of Jason,
 Yo've drank Medea's
 magick bason ;
 And after fixty
 years compleated,
 Begin to find your
 youth repeated ;
 As once, I now
 remember well,

I've

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I've heard papa
from Ovid tell.
Howe'er it be,
the Books you write
Give me much pastime
and delight.
My sifter Betsy,
(set her down,
And one of your
Subscribers own)
Has some degree of
wit and spirit,
And loves, she says,
t'encourage merit.

A 4

Bobby

[viii]

Bobby and Jemmy,
tho' as yet
They have not learn'd
to read a bit,
Take much delight
to hear your wit;
Add them to your Sub-
scribers number,
If 't won't too much
your page incumber.
For my part, I ne'er
yet did see
What you describe
so prettily;

And

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And long to have it
in my power
To see the Giants
and the Tower.

I' th' mean time what
you publish more
Mark me six books,
I'll pay the score :

And whate'er profit
I can make ye

Believe me heartily

Yours, JACKY.

HEATHERLY.

Feb. 28.

1741.

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kinson.

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OLD ST. PAUL'S.





THE
HISTORY
OF
St. PAUL'S.

BOOK I.
CHAP. I. *Of old St. Paul's.*

IT will be proper first
to inform my young
C 4 Readers,

Readers, that upon the same spot of ground on which St. Paul's now stands, there was formerly a fine old church, built by Ethelbert king of Kent in the year of our Lord six hundred and ten, and dedicated to the same Apostle. This church suffered many times by lightning, fire, and other accidents; which was as often repaired: and such parts of it

as fell to decay thro' age,
 were rebuilt ; till at last it
 was destroy'd in the great
 fire of London in 1666,
 and one thousand and fifty-
 six years from its first
 building.

CHAP. II.

*Of the foundation, building,
 and situation of the
 present Church.*

THE old church of St.
 Paul's having been de-
 stroy'd,

stroy'd, as mention'd in the first chapter, and the ruins and rubbish of it cleared in about eight or nine years after ; the first foundation stone of this present church was laid by Mr. Strong, a mason, and the second by Mr. Longland, on the twenty first of June, 1675. at the north-east corner, facing Cheapside : From which time it was not completely finish'd

nish'd till the year 1724.
 being about forty-nine
 years in building. It was
 begun and finish'd by the
 same architect, Sir Chris-
 topher Wren, and by the
 same mason, Mr. Strong
 abovementioned : The
 charge of which is said to
 amount to one million of
 money, or upwards. The
 whole building is encom-
 pass'd with strong iron pa-
 lisades, all curiously turn'd,
 about

about five and twenty hundred in number ; which cost fifteen thousand pounds.

This magnificent structure, which stands upon the highest ground in the city, near to the west gate, called Ludgate, is the first Cathedral in England built according to the rules of architecture. Its walls are of fine Portland stone, rustic work. Two ranges of

of pilasters adorn the outside, one above the other ; the lower consists of about an hundred and twenty, with their entablatures of the Corinthian order, and the upper of as many of the Composite, or Roman order : besides twenty columns at the west and four at the east end, and those of the portico's, &c.

The spaces between the arches of the windows and
the

the architrave of the lower order, are filled with great variety of curious enrichments, such as cherubims, festoons of flowers, &c. and at the east end is the cipher of W. R. within a garter, on which are the words **HONI SOIT QUI MAL Y PENSE**; in English, *Evil be to him that evil thinks*: and this within a fine compartment of palm-branches, and placed under an imperial

imperial crown, &c. all finely cut in stone.

All the parts of this grand church, both within and without, are built with such proportion and art, that the eye is charmed with the exact order of its pillars, which support the portico's, dome, &c. the beauty of their capitals; the rich cornish wherewith they are embellished; the number of spacious win-

windows, &c. In short,
the whole fabrick is full
of beauty and harmony;
and in bigness, strength of
building, figure, and other
enrichments in wood,
stone, iron, &c. equal, if
not superior, to any church
in Europe.



CHAP. III.

*Of the length, breadth,
height, and other di-
mensions of St. Paul's
Church.*

IT S length within the
wall, from east to west
is five hundred feet.

The breadth of the
west end is a hundred and
sixty two feet.

The breadth between
D the

the north and south portico's, or doors, within the walls, is two hundred and forty nine feet.

The breadth of the rest is about a hundred and seventeen feet.

The circuit of the walls outwardly is two thousand two hundred and ninety two feet.

The ground plot that this great church stands upon, is two acres, sixteen perches,

perches, twenty three yards and one foot.

Its height within, over the middle isle, is eighty-eight feet.

To the top of the west pediment, under the figure of St. Paul, a hundred and twenty feet.

The height of the two Towers at the west front, two hundred and eight feet.

To the gallery of the
 D 2 cupo

cupolo, two hundred and eight feet.

To the upper gallery two hundred and seventy six feet ; and from thence to the top of the cross, sixty four feet.

The height of the cross from the ball, is ten feet ; the diameter of the ball is six feet ; its circumference eighteen feet ; and it will contain ninety bushels ; and I have been told, that
since

since it has been up, sixteen men have been drinking in it at one time; I suppose, to the good health of all their friends round about St. Paul's.



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FOUR INDIAN KINGS.



CHAP. IV.

*Of the strange conceptions
four Indian Kings had of
this great building; and
how they imagin'd it at
first to be one great rock
that grew in that place.*

SA Ga Yeon Qua Ral-
Tow, one of the four
Indian Kings who were in
this country about thirty-
two years ago, amongst
D 4 other

other curious remarks which he made whilst he was in England, left behind him the following concerning St. Paul's church.

There stands, says he, on the most rising part of the town a huge house, big enough to contain the whole nation of which I am king.

Our good brother, *E Tow*
O Koam, king of the
 Rivers,

Rivers, is of opinion it was made by the hands of the great God to whom it is consecrated (*meaning St. Paul.*)

The kings of Grana-
jah and of the Six Na-
tions, believe that it was
created with the earth, and
produced on the same day
with the sun and moon.

But, says he, for my
own part, and from the
best information that I can
get

get of this matter, I am apt to think that this vast temple was fashioned into the shape it now bears by several tools and instruments, of which they have a wonderful variety in this country.

I imagine it was at first only an huge mis-shapen rock that grew upon the top of the hill; which the natives of the country, after having cut it into a
kind

kind of regular figure, bored and hollowed with incredible pains and industry; till they had wrought in it all those beautiful vaults and caverns into which it is divided at this day.

As soon as this rock was thus curiously scooped to their liking, then a prodigious number of hands must have been employ'd in chipping the outside of it,

it, and smoothing the surface; which is in several places hewn out into pillars, that stand like the trunks of so many trees, bound about the top with garlands of leaves.

It is probable, says this Indian monarch, that when this great work was begun, which must have been many hundred years ago, there was some religion among this people;
for

for they give it the name of a Temple, and have a tradition that it was designed for men to pay their devotions in.

And indeed, there are several reasons which make us think that the natives of this country had formerly among them some sort of worship; for they set apart every seventh day as sacred. But upon my going into one
of

of those holy houses on that day, I could not observe any circumstance of devotion in their behaviour: There was indeed a man in black who, mounted above the rest, seemed to utter something with great vehemence; but as for those underneath him, instead of paying their worship to the Deity of the place, they were most of them bowing and curtesying

tesying to one another;
and a great number of
them fast asleep.

Whether these were the
real thoughts of those roy-
al strangers, I will not
take upon me to answer.
But what wonder is it
that such savage kings,
whose dwellings are in
huts and thickets, should
form such wild notions of
this prodigious structure,
when

when we ourselves, who see it daily, are filled with astonishment at the magnitude and grandeur of this glorious building ; and how such a work could be performed by mortal hands !

WE shall now proceed to examine the particular curiosities of this church.

CHAP.

C H A P. V.

*Of the fine statue of the
late Queen ANNE.*

BEfore the west front of
this grand Cathedral,
is a spacious yard; in
which, upon a lofty pe-
destal, stands the effigy of
the late queen Anne; with
four supporters, represent-
ing those dominions in her
title.

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[66]

QUEEN ANNE.



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She has her crown upon her head ; the scepter in her right hand, and the globe in her left : her dress is very rich, and the workmanship of it exceeding curious.

On her right hand is Britannia ; who appears with a very lovely and chearful countenance : she has a crown of laurel upon her head ; a spear in her right hand, and her left

reaching to the royal arms
in the front of the pede-
stal.

On her left hand is
France : she seems much
dejected, very thoughtful,
and in a languishing state.
Her right hand rests upon
a truncheon, and her left
holds a crown, which lies
down in her lap. She is
clothed with a very rich
robe, adorned with flower
de lis ; and upon her head
she

she has a warrior's cap, or helmet.

Behind the queen is Ireland, with her harp in her lap: her looks are amiable and pleasant.

The fourth is America, in the habit of her country; her body being almost naked: she has upon her head a crown of curious feathers, a bow in her left hand, and a quiver of arrows on her back:

she has the head of an European under her foot, with an arrow sticking in it; supposed to have been just shot from her bow. There is likewise an allegator creeping from beneath her feet; being an animal very common in some parts of America, and which lives both on the land and in the water.

The queen's, and all the other figures, are of fine

fine Italian, statuary marble; the pedestal of veined marble.

The former were all cut out of one solid, rough block of marble, which was taken by one of our English ships, during the late war, in its passage from Leghorn to France; and was designed for the effigy of Lewis the fourteenth, on horseback.

The carver was the late

E 4

inge-

ingenious Mr. Francis Bird.

The foot of the pedestal is encircled with three marble steps; and the whole encompassed with beautiful, strong, iron palisades.

This royal statue, on account of its grand supporters, fine pedestal, and curious workmanship, is esteemed superior to all others in Europe.

C H A P. VI.

*Of the west front of
St. Paul's.*

M^Y young readers having satisfy'd their curiosities in examining the queen's statue, &c. from thence they have a full view of this grand church, where they may behold the beauty and majesty of the whole, and the just sym-

symmetry of all its parts.

Observe first, the twelve large pillars which support the portico, each four feet thick, and eight and forty in height, of the Corinthian order.

Second, the eight above, which support the pediment, of the Composite, or Roman order; each three feet and a half thick, and about thirty four feet in height.

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See in the large triangular pediment a lively representation of St. Paul's conversion in his journey to Damascus, carved in relievo, by the ingenious hand of the late Mr. Bird; the history of which, my young readers will see hereafter.

Over the pitch or top of this pediment, is the figure of St. Paul with a sword in his hand. On his

his right hand is St. Peter with a cock; and on his left, St. James.

In the front of the two lofty and beautiful towers, are the four Evangelists: In the north, St. Matthew with an angel, and St. Mark with a lion. In the south, St. Luke with an ox, and St. John with an eagle.

These two towers are each adorn'd with circular ranges of columns, of the
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Corinthian order, with domes on the upper part, and on the top of each a gilded pine-apple.

In the south tower is the famous large clock, the bell of which weighs four ton and four hundred and four pounds; and its sound may be heard at five or six miles distance. The work of this clock is large and curious: it is kept in excellent good order, and generally

herally carries the hour of the day very exactly ; a skilful person being appointed to look after it for that purpose.

Observe likewise the fine carvings, and other rich embellishments, over the whole front of this noble structure.

And lastly, you ascend to the great door by twenty four spacious stone steps ; the first ten of which extend

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extend in width above forty yards each, and the other fourteen full thirty six yards.

The door-case is white marble : and over the entrance is cut in relievo the history of St. Paul preaching to the Bereans. It consists of a group of nine figures besides that of St. Paul, with books, &c. These Bereans were a sort of people ingenuous and mild,

mild, and who spent great part of their time in reading the Scriptures, observing whether what Paul taught was agreeable with what the Scriptures say of the Messias: and many of whom, from his preaching, chearfully embraced the faith. *Acts xvii, 11.*

Under the arch on the right hand, in a pannel, is St. Paul's imprisonment; and on the left hand in the pannel,

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panel, his preaching to the Athenians, with some other scripture stories, all neatly carved in stone, by the same hand as the conversion.

My young readers will find the history of St. Paul's imprisonment in the sixteenth chapter of the *Acts*, and his preaching to the Athenians in the seventeenth chapter, both beautifully related.

CHAP. VII.

*Of the north portico of
St. Paul's.*

THE ascent to the north portico is by twelve circular steps of black marble: The dome of the portico is supported and adorn'd with six very spacious columns of the Corinthian order. Above the door-case is a large

large urn, with festoons,
 &c. over this is a large
 pediment, where are the
 royal arms with the rega-
 lia, supported by two an-
 gels, with each a palm-
 branch in their hands ; un-
 der whose feet appear the
 figures of the lion and uni-
 corn ; and over the pedi-
 ment, on the top of this
 north front, are the effigies
 of five Apostles, carved in
 stone.

CHAP. VIII.

*Of the south portico of
St. Paul's.*

YOU ascend to the south portico by twenty five steps, the ground on this side of the church being lower than that on the north : The portico is supported with six grand lofty columns, like those of the west and north fronts ;
and

and is in most other respects like the latter.

In the pediment over it is the figure of a phoenix, with her wings expanded, arising out of the flames; which emblem signifies, a new church arising out of the old one; under which is the word RESURGAM; that is, *I shall rise again.*

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PHOENIX.



On the top of the pediment is the effigy of St. Andrew, and those of two other saints on each hand of him.

These five figures, with those on the north and west fronts, represent the four Evangelists, and the rest of the Apostles. They bear in their hands the several instruments whereby they suffer'd death; or such remarkable ensigns as

allude to some important incident of their lives.

These images are each about eleven feet high, and their pedestals about four feet: they were all carv'd by the late Mr. Bird, before mention'd, and are reckon'd to be well done.



CHAP.

C H A P. IX.

*Of what is remarkable in
going up the cupola, or
top of St. Paul's.*

HAVING examin'd what
is most curious on the
outside of St. Paul's, I
shall next endeavour to as-
cend the cupola; and in
my journey to the top of
it, take notice of what I
meet with most worthy of
my

my young readers attention.

To go up St. Paul's, you must enter a door at the south side, which stands open all the day long for that purpose.

After you have ascended a few steps, you come to a door which will not open till *each person pays Two-pence.*

The whole number of steps to the upper gallery
is

is five hundred and thirty four; of which the first two hundred and sixty are so exceeding easy, that a child might go up them; they being but about four or five inches deep.

The other two hundred and seventy four steps are pretty steep, and in many places, from the large stone gallery to the upper gallery, very dark; so that one person can scarce discern another.

In this place we have a glimmering sight of such prodigious works in iron, stone, and timber, which hold together the dome, cupola, &c. that it is impossible to convey an idea of it to my readers: And though these amasing works are very curious to see, yet my young masters and misses must not by any means venture themselves here without a guide.

The

The iron gallery on the top of the cupola, is the highest any one is suffer'd to go; above that are the lantern, ball and cross; to the top of which, from the gallery just mention'd, is sixty four feet; and the passage thither by ladders, very difficult and dangerous to ascend,

From this gallery, in fine clear weather, we may agreeably observe the vast
extent

extent of this great city and suburbs ; the great number of churches, steeples, publick buildings and houses that present themselves, which way soever we turn our eyes ; as also the ships in the river, that look like a huge forest, and the vessels, boats, &c. spread all over the Thames. Here likewise we have a delightful prospect of the country, for many miles round about. CH.

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CHAP. X.

*Of the whispering-gallery,
and fine paintings with-
in the cupola.*

IN your return from the top of St. Paul's, you will be ask'd to see the whispering-gallery, which will cost *Two-pence each person.*

This gallery is a very great curiosity: 'Tis a large

large circle, which runs round the bottom of the inside of the dome, of about an hundred and forty three feet in diameter, or cross the widest part: 'tis rail'd in with iron of very fine workmanship, gilt with gold. The walls all around are painted and gilded with great beauty: but the greatest curiosity of all is the whispering-place; where, leaning your head

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head against the wall, you may easily hear all that is said, though it be ever so low, and at the most distant place from you in the gallery : which affords great matter of surprize and innocent diversion to all young persons who come to amuse themselves with this curiosity.

Here you have the best view of the eight pieces of history on the inside of the
G
dome,

dome, painted by the late Sir James Thornhill, with inimitable art and beauty.

The first represents the conversion of St. Paul.

Acts ix. 4.

The second, Elymas the sorcerer struck with blindness. *Acts* xiii. 2.

Third, the priest of Jupiter, offering sacrifice to Paul and Barnabas. *Acts* xiv. 15.

Fourth, the jaylor converted. *Acts* xvi. 30.

Fifth, Paul preaching at Athens. *Acts* xvii. 15.

Sixth, the conjuring books burnt. *Acts* xix. 19.

Seventh, King Agrippa almost persuaded to be a Christian. *Acts* xxvi. 28.

Eighth, St. Paul's shipwreck on the island of Melita. *Acts* xxviii. 6.

[100]

Conversion of St. PAUL.



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CHAP. XI.

*Of the conversion of
St. Paul.*

ST. PAUL, before his conversion, having been principally concern'd in the death of St. Stephen, and his bloody mind not satisfied with this cruelty, threatens nothing less than prisons and death to the Christians wherever

G 3

he

he found them. And to qualify himself the better for the execution of this bloody purpose, he goes to the high priest to enlarge his commission: and having obtain'd power to seise all Christians, and send them bound to Jerusalem to be try'd, he immediately sets out for Damascus to put it in practice: but whilst he was on the road, entertaining himself with
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the bloody prospect, God,
in mercy to him, and those
he went to persecute, takes
him off from his wicked
design: a bright shining
cloud encompassed him,
which struck him with
great terror, as at the pre-
sence of God, and threw
him prostrate on the
ground, where as he lay,
he heard a voice out of it,
saying unto him, *Saul,*
Saul, why persecutest thou

G 4 *me?*

me? This increas'd his amazement: and being desirous to know the meaning of this vision, he asks, *Who art thou, Lord!* The voice reply'd, *I am JESUS, whom thou persecutest:* It is in vain for thee to resist the decrees of providence, therefore be no longer disobedient, but hearken to the commands that shall be given thee. At this Saul, full of
of

of fear and trembling, cried out, ' Lord, instruct me what thou wouldst have me to do : ' The voice returned, ' Go to Damascus, and there thou shalt know my will.

Those who attended Paul on this journey, were struck dumb with fear and amazement, wondring that they should hear a voice, but see no man speaking: therefore taking up Saul, they

they led him to the city ;
and by this miraculous
vision he was converted
to the Christian faith.

This history is the sub-
ject of the first piece of
painting.

CHAP. XII.

*Elymas the Sorcerer struck
blind.*

PAul and Mark, as they
travelled through the
isle

[107]

SORCERER struck blind.



isle of Cyprus, came to the city of Paphos, where the temple of Venus was; at which place they met with Elymas a noted forcerer; who being intimate with Sergius Paulus the proconsul, a prudent virtuous man, and inclinable to receive the faith, did all he could to divert him from the conversation of these two Apostles. But Paul, in an holy rage, casting
ing

ing his eyes on Elymas,
thus expressed his abhor-
rence; ' O thou vile Sor-
cerer, like the Devil, by
whom thou workest, thou
art an enemy to all good-
ness; wilt thou persist in
forcery, in defiance of the
faith of Christ, which
comes armed with a much
greater power of miracles,
than those to which thou
falsly pretendest? Thou
shalt soon see the venge-
ance

ance of heaven upon thee;
 for thou that perversly
 holdest out against the
 light of the gospel, shalt
 lose thy sight, which by
 the immediate power of
 God shall be taken from
 thee for some time. And
 immediately he was struck
 blind, begging the aid of
 some kind hand to lead
 him: and the proconsul,
 convinced by this miracle,
 was converted to the Chri-
 stian faith. This

[III]

This is the subject of the
second piece of painting.

C H A P. XII.

*The priest of Jupiter offering
sacrifice to Paul and
Barnabas.*

WHILE those Apostles
were preaching at
Lystra, a poor cripple,
lame from the hour of his
birth, being one of their
hearers,

[112]

PAUL and BARNABAS.



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hearers, was observed by St. Paul, who said to him, *Stand upright on thy feet*; and by the bare speaking of the word, his feet were made so strong that he leaped and walked.

When they saw it, they concluded this miracle could not be done but by the immediate presence of the Deity; and therefore running about in great confusion, they cried out,
H that

that the gods had put on human shape, and were come down among them.

They look'd on Barnabas as Jupiter, the supreme God ; and Paul, as Mercury, the interpreter of the will of the gods, because he spoke more than Barnabas.

But as soon as this miracle came to the ear of the priest of Jupiter, he came to Paul and Barnabas,

bas, bringing oxen with garlands of flowers; being such victims as they offered to the gods they worshiped, intending to offer sacrifice to the Apostles: but they abhorring such idolatry, rent their garments; endeavouring by arguments drawn from some of the plainest instances of nature, such as day, night, summer, winter, &c. to convince them,

that worship was due only to that God who was the author of all those blessings; yet this discourse, so pressingly urg'd by the Apostles, could scarce restrain those poor idolaters from sacrificing to them.

This is the history of the third piece of painting in the cupola.

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CHAP. XIV.

The jaylor converted.

IT happen'd one day, as St. Paul was going to the house of prayer, there met him a young maid possess'd with an evil spirit, which spake from her, by which means, telling strange things, whether past or to come, she had gain'd her masters much

H 3 money :

[118]

JAYLOR Converted.



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money: this maid Paul cures by casting out the evil spirit. When her masters saw that all hope of future gain from her divination was gone, they apprehended Paul and his companion, and brought them before the magistrates, complaining that these men occasioned great disturbance in the city. Upon which a tumult arising, the magistrates or-

der'd them to be scourg'd,
and committed to prison;
strictly charging the jailor
to put them in irons, and
secure them in the strong-
est part of the prison;
where they spent their
midnight hours in prayers
and praises to God; and
whilst they thus enjoy'd
themselves, the earth be-
gan to tremble, the very
foundation of the prison
shook, the prison doors
flew

flew open, and every prisoner's chains dropt from him. The jailor waking with the fright, and seeing the prison-doors open, concluded that all the prisoners had made their escape; and thinking with himself that this would be imputed to his neglect, in despair drew his sword with design to kill himself: which Paul happily prevents, telling him his pri-

prisoners were all secure. Then calling for a light, he came into the presence of the two saints, trembling ; and prostrating himself before them, beseeches them to instruct him in the way of salvation.

This is the history of the fourth piece of painting in the cupola of St. Paul's.

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THE other paintings
in the cupolo,
And num'rous beauties
in the church below,
Must all into my

SECOND VOLUME go.
For tho' my Books
folk do *Gigantick* call,
ONE will not hold the
great church of St. Paul.
Kind reader, in my next
you'll see a wonder,
The Monument so tall,
Shall come close to S. Paul,
Tho' now so far asunder.

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